



from A to Being, the rapidway is open!

The transformation of Highway 7 East over the past four years has been achieved with the opening of the first full segment of the vivaNext project. Sidewalks, bike lanes, dedicated left-turn signals, new water mains and the first six kilometres of rapidways from Bayview Avenue to Warden Avenue are now a reality. Thank you for your patience as we went from A – design and construction, to B – open!

The introduction of the rapidway has provided customers with faster trips and more consistent travel times. Comparing September 2013 to September 2014, average peak-hour travel time dropped 35% between Bayview and Highway 404. Public feedback has been very positive and ridership has increased 10% between Bayview and South Town Centre Boulevard.

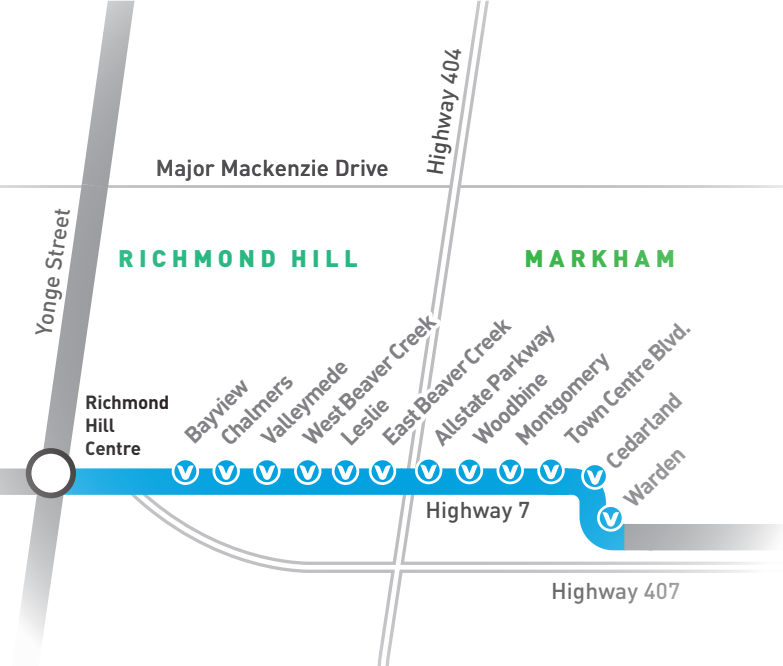
Opening Highway 7 East marks a significant step forward in connecting our urban growth centres and being prepared for the future. The rapidway supports York Region’s growth plan by encouraging the development of attractive and pedestrian-friendly places for people to live, work, shop and play. We are seeing this unfold with new development and construction cranes on the horizon!

With a total value of \$3.2 billion, our currently funded projects will deliver 34 kilometres of bus rapidways with 36 stations, an 8.6-kilometre subway extension with six stations, an operations facility, two bus terminals and multiple park and ride facilities over the next five years. The results will go a long way to making York Region even more inviting and welcoming, and will help support population and economic growth.



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ideal communities include transit



“@YRTViva love how fast the bus is on the new extended rapid transit way! Got to the mall really quick!”

“My 45 minute ride was only 22 minutes today. Thanks to the new stations [I work at Town Centre], my ride time is cut in 1/2 [once I leave the Richmond Hill Centre]. Great job!!!”

“Looks great I am sure it will work well... Keeping emergency vehicles accessible was a great idea. Well done!”

VivaNext is an integral component of the Centres and Corridors strategy, which concentrates growth and development in key areas, and strengthens downtowns in Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Vaughan.

The Transit-Oriented Development [TOD] taking place on Highway 7 and within Markham Centre is living proof of how York Region is managing growth to create complete communities within walking distance of transit.

Much of the new development built around vivastations will be compact and mixed-use, providing housing, employment, retail, dining, services and recreation, all within walking

distance of transit. Developments will also include more welcoming public spaces, attractive landscaping and other amenities. This helps make centres into more dynamic destinations – and complete communities that are ideal places to live.



green neighbourhoods

VivaNext is helping to transform York Region's major corridors through the urban design and transportation planning concept known as the "complete street." The complete street reflects an understanding that streets should anticipate and accommodate the needs of all users, while providing a friendly and comfortable environment. This style of design creates a very welcoming urban feel and is reflected in many European cities which we love to visit.

York Region has recreational parks and green spaces that enhance the beauty of our towns and cities. The vivaNext projects continue to enrich our neighbourhoods by ensuring plant installation and growth well into the future.



In Richmond Hill and Markham alone, approximately 1,250 trees and 4,910 perennials and grasses are being planted along Highway 7 East. Our challenge with new plantings is to get them to thrive in the first two years, but luckily all new plants and trees come with a two-year warranty! Our buses are blue, but we think green!



Highway 404 underpass queue jump lane



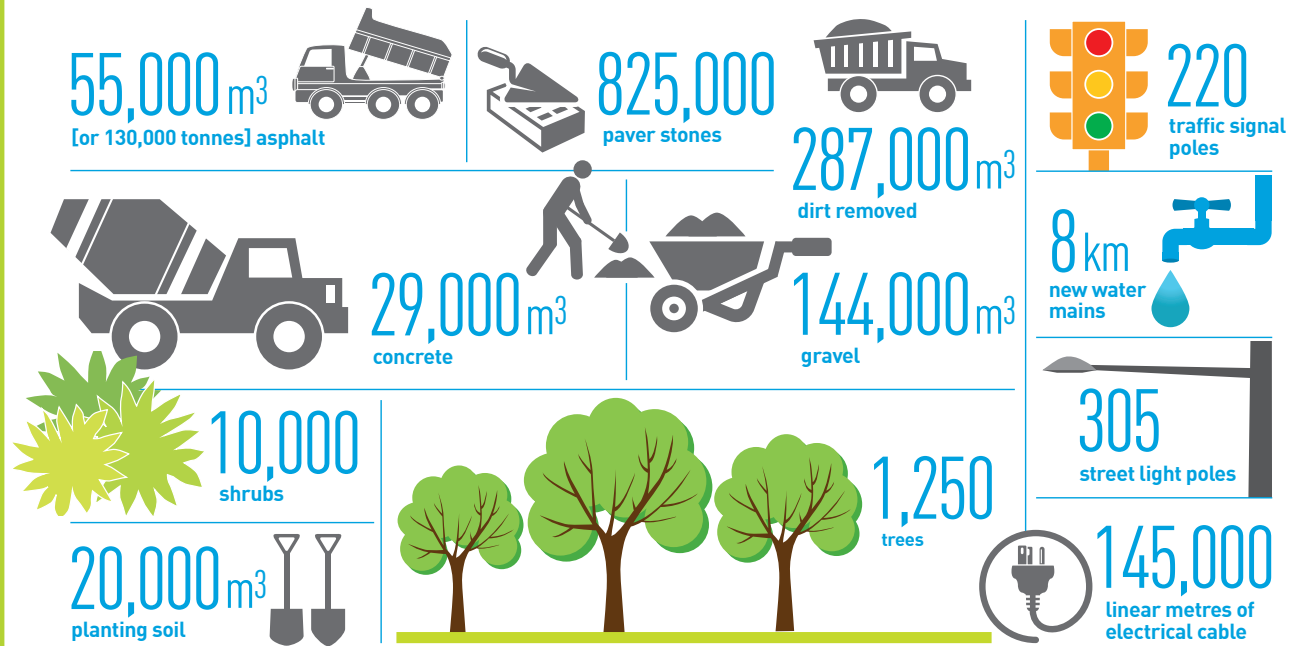
Our commitment to innovation extends throughout every aspect of how we design and implement the rapid transit and infrastructure projects. Working with internationally renowned design, engineering and construction firms, we are able to learn from the best and apply their knowledge of innovations

from around the world to projects here in York Region. The design and construction of the rapidway under Highway 404 presented a challenge of restricted space under the bridge. The rapidway design had to work with only one additional travel lane for

Viva, instead of the two along the rest of the rapidway. A specialized transit signal was installed to direct Viva drivers when to proceed safely along the single lane rapidway. This design allows both east and west buses to take turns using the rapidway lane.

fun facts

for Highway 7 East, Bayview to Warden



thank you!

It's been a pleasure serving you as
Community Liaison over the past few years.

Seeing the Highway 7 East rapidway
project come to life, from the initial design
drawings to being in service, has been exciting and
inspiring. I look forward to seeing more rapidways
built throughout York Region.

As I move on to other vivaNext projects, I wish everyone
the best – especially the local residents and businesses
I connected so often with during the project.

Be sure to try out the new rapidway!

Nimisha
Nimisha Raja
Community Liaison

Below are your new contacts,
should you require assistance:

Transit services

YRT/Viva Customer Service:
905.762.2100 or 1.866.MOVE-YRT
[668.3978]

Road or traffic

York Region Roads Department:
1.877.464.9675 ext. 75200

Property related matters

Jayne Patterson:
905.830.4444 ext. 71347
email: jayne.patterson@york.ca

VivaNext construction

Linda Filippi, Project Manager,
Community Liaisons
905.505.0541
email: linda.filippi@york.ca



finishing touches you may see...

A new vivastation is open on Cedarland Drive, walking distance to shopping, major employers and future condo developments. This final section of rapidway along South Town Centre Boulevard, Cedarland Drive and Warden Avenue allows YRT/Viva customers to experience truly rapid transit, from Bayview Avenue in Richmond Hill to the Downtown Markham development area.

When weather permits this summer, a top-coat of pavement will be applied to traffic lanes, red pavement will be applied to the rapidway, trees and shrubs will be planted and sidewalks will be completed on South Town Centre, Cedarland and Clegg Road.

All this goes a long way to improving mobility and transit in York Region.

track record of success

We've received multiple prestigious awards over the last several years, and three awards were received recently that celebrate planning, design and innovation.

The American Public Works Association awarded us Project of the Year [2014] for transportation projects more than \$75 million, recognizing our alliance with consultants and contractors in the management of the Highway 7 East rapidway project.

The Ontario Public Works Association awarded us Project of the Year [2013], recognizing our coordination with the consultant, architect and engineer, and contractor.

The York Region Chapter of the Professional Engineers of Ontario



awarded us Engineering Project of the Year [2013] for an outstanding technical project that contributes to the engineering profession and local community.

VivaNext's commitment to excellence, innovation and accountability will continue to shape how we work, and the legacy we leave for the future.



stop, shop + dine.



Thank you for continuing to support our local shops and businesses along Highway 7. If you haven't visited us in a while, come and check out what we have in store.

Shop7

We're Open.